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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PAKIST021624	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/KR2002/002456	International filing date (day/month/year) 27 DECEMBER 2002 (27.12.2002)	Priority date (day/month/year) 27 DECEMBER 2001 (27.12.2001)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC7 B01J 20/26		
Applicant KOREA INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY et al		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand

22 JULY 2003 (22.07.2003)

Date of completion of this report

26 APRIL 2004 (26.04.2004)

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/KR



Korean Intellectual Property Office
920 Dunsan-dong, Seo-gu, Daejeon 302-701,
Republic of Korea

Facsimile No. 82-42-472-7140

Authorized officer

YANG, In Soo

Telephone No. 82-42-481-5567



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/KR2002/002456

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed
- ☐ the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the claims:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the drawings:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language English which is

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☒ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheet _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this opinion as "originally filed." and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item I and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

International application No.

PCT/KR2002/002456

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	7 ~ 29	YES
	Claims	1 ~ 6	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	7 ~ 29	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1 ~ 29	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

1. Reference is made to the following document:

D1 = US 6080797 (27 June 2000)

2. Claim 1 relates to a dehumidifying element comprising a superabsorbing polymer (SAP) and a hygroscopic salt. Claim 2 relates to the dehumidifying element of claim 1, wherein the SAP is cross-linked. Claim 3 relates to relates to the dehumidifying element of claim 1, wherein the SAP takes a granular form and is contacted with the hygroscopic salt. Claim 4 relates to the dehumidifying element of claim 1, wherein the maximum particle diameter of the granules is 1000 μ m. Claim 5 relates to the dehumidifying element of claim 1, wherein the SAP is formed in fibers or filaments. Claim 6 relates to the dehumidifying element of claim 1, wherein the SAP includes a polymer and/or copolymer in which acryl acid or acrylamide is cross-linked, propfpolymer of starch, a cross-linked amylum derivative, and/or a cellulose derivative. The dehumidifying element according to said claims is disclosed in document D1 (column 2, line 29 to column 11, line 67), which relates to a porous dehumidifying polypolymer and a method for manufacturing the same.

3. The dehumidifying element according to claims 7-18 can be readily derived by a person skilled in the art from D1.

4. The method for fabricating a dehumidifying element according to claims 19-29 also can be readily derived from the disclosure of D1 (below column 2, line 35).